



FOURTH CADET TRAINING GROUP

Minnesota Wing – Civil Air Patrol

United States Air Force Auxiliary

PO Box 11230, St. Paul, Minnesota 55111-0230

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL BASIC CADETS

01 May 2002

From: C/Capt Caralyn Flack, CC

Subj: Expectations of Cadet Training Group personnel

Congratulations! You have been selected to be a part of the Third Cadet Training Group. The Cadet Training Group concept has been in Minnesota Wing now, as you may have guessed, for almost four years. We are very pleased with the results of the Cadet Training Group and the progress it has made, and I know this year will be no different. My staff and I are looking forward to being a part of the single most important experience of your CAP career. Encampment will be here sooner than you think, and I encourage you to prepare yourself for the experience:

Learn your SOP

Learn the information in this little book before you arrive at encampment. You will have a lot to do at encampment, and knowing your SOP will take a significant amount of weight off your shoulders. The information in the SOP is also necessary for graduation, and learning it ahead of time will be much easier than cramming. Your SOP will be your constant companion at encampment. Many times each day you will be quizzed on the material, and at times you may be called upon to teach the material to others. Knowing the material will make this task easier to complete.

Perfect your uniforms.

You will be expected to come to encampment with all of the necessary uniform items for both your Blues and BDU's. No items will be provided at encampment, and you will not be able to purchase items once you have arrived. Your uniform should be in good condition and everything placed or sewn on the uniforms should be correct as stated in CAPM 39-1, *CAP Uniform Manual*. Encampment will ensure you know these standards, but that does not mean you should come unprepared. Clean and iron your uniform before coming to encampment, and attach all nameplates and patches firmly and correctly. Remove all loose threads, stains and patch any holes. Shine your boots and check your laces for fraying. **Break in new boots, as this will help you avoid multiple trips to the Medical Officer.** Pack extra socks and bring foot-care products such as moleskin and foot powder. Make sure your haircut meets the grooming standard or you will have to pay to have one at encampment. The inspectors will note faults in your uniform and you will need to correct them prior to graduation. Save yourself both time and stress by preparing now.

Come with a positive attitude.

Why even attend encampment if you aren't there to learn something? The question may seem trivial, but it is a situation that many cadets face. If you're attending encampment just so you can get the Mitchell Award, you're missing the entire reason why it is a requirement to become an officer. If you're trying to slide through encampment quietly, without working much, the week will seem to drag by. On the other hand, if you apply yourself, open your mind, and do things and follow orders in a positive manner, encampment will be a fun memory and will be a wonderful experience. Understand that encampment isn't something that you *have* to do; it is a choice you make, one which will make you a better CAP cadet, if you are willing to work for it. Commit yourself to excellence and you will succeed.

Be willing to learn new things.

Come with an open mind and a willingness to learn new things. At encampment you will be taught the standards that govern the Cadet Program. At times what we teach may differ from what you have learned at your home unit. This is expected and encouraged. Every unit has its own variations and misinterpretations, and at encampment we strive to correct these and create standardization across the Wing. If you are not willing to open your mind, then you will not learn new things and you will be unable to return to your unit and share your newfound knowledge.

Again, congratulations on being accepted into the Fourth Cadet Training Group. Three classes of CTG graduates have gone before you, and those cadets have earned the right to call themselves CTG graduates and true members of the CTG. I encourage you to speak with the members of the CTG and find out how you may succeed in the encampment environment. Are you up to the challenge? I believe you are, but now you must prove it to both the encampment staff and yourself.

CARALYN FLACK, C/Capt, CAP
Commander